

How Britain Won In Darkest Days

Invasion Balked by Planes; Churchill Ready to Die Fighting in Streets.

LONDON—Lifting of censorship has permitted correspondents to reveal the full extent of the disaster that threatened Britain after Dunkirk and the collapse of France.

The British Isles were so close to invasion and defeat in the summer of 1940 that the cabinet met secretly to consider flight to Canada.

Prime Minister Churchill prepared to take up arms and die fighting in the streets of London, says the United Press.

Great Britain's military assets at the time were 500 planes, one completely equipped infantry division, about 300 light tanks and fewer than 100 field guns—many of them obsolete.

To this add a motley, untrained home guard, armed with pikes and shotguns and you have the total strength with which this island faced the triumphant German armies massed across the English channel.

Fortunately, the 500 first-line Spitfires and Hurricanes that the RAF threw into the air against the Luftwaffe's more than 3,500 bombers and fighters were able to prevent the Germans from winning the aerial superiority they considered essential to a successful invasion.

Had the Germans ever set foot on British soil, the plight of the defense would have been hopeless. The British expeditionary force that struggled back from Dunkirk was decimated and without equipment.

There were 80 infantry tanks in the entire island and these were equipped with two-pounders—about 40-mm.—guns.

The second armored division, the only one available for action, had less than half of its rated strength of 500 tanks.

The few existing field regiments had one 25-pound gun apiece—they were supposed to have 24 each. Most of them had little or no ammunition.

Safe at Last

On the southeastern coast, the most logical ground for the invasion, the defending troops were distributed at the rate of one infantry brigade to 25 miles, or 45 men to the mile.

Britain's defense plan, it can now be revealed, consisted of a "crust" of resistance along the coast, backed up by anti-tank islands at all important communications points. Then a network of barriers was made by living rivers and canals with anti-tank traps and finally the mobile reserves.

Britain's leaders slowly became certain that Hitler could no more cross the channel than could Napoleon before him.

The battle in the skies had barely reached its climax when Churchill rose in common to pay his homage. "Never in the history of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

The Battle of Britain had been won.

18 Locomotives Taken To Burma by Army Plane

MIAMI, Fla.—Eighteen 12,000 pound locomotives departed Cincinnati across the Atlantic two weeks ago by air transport command planes are now hauling supplies for Admiral Mountbatten's forces in Burma.

On January 8 General Somervell, commanding general of the army service forces, received an urgent request for 18 narrow gauge, gas powered locomotives.

The Pate-Roth-Hatch company of Plymouth, Ohio, on March 27 assembled the first three, tested them, then knocked them down and crated them for shipment. The others followed.

Soldier's Maintenance Costs \$53.88 A Year

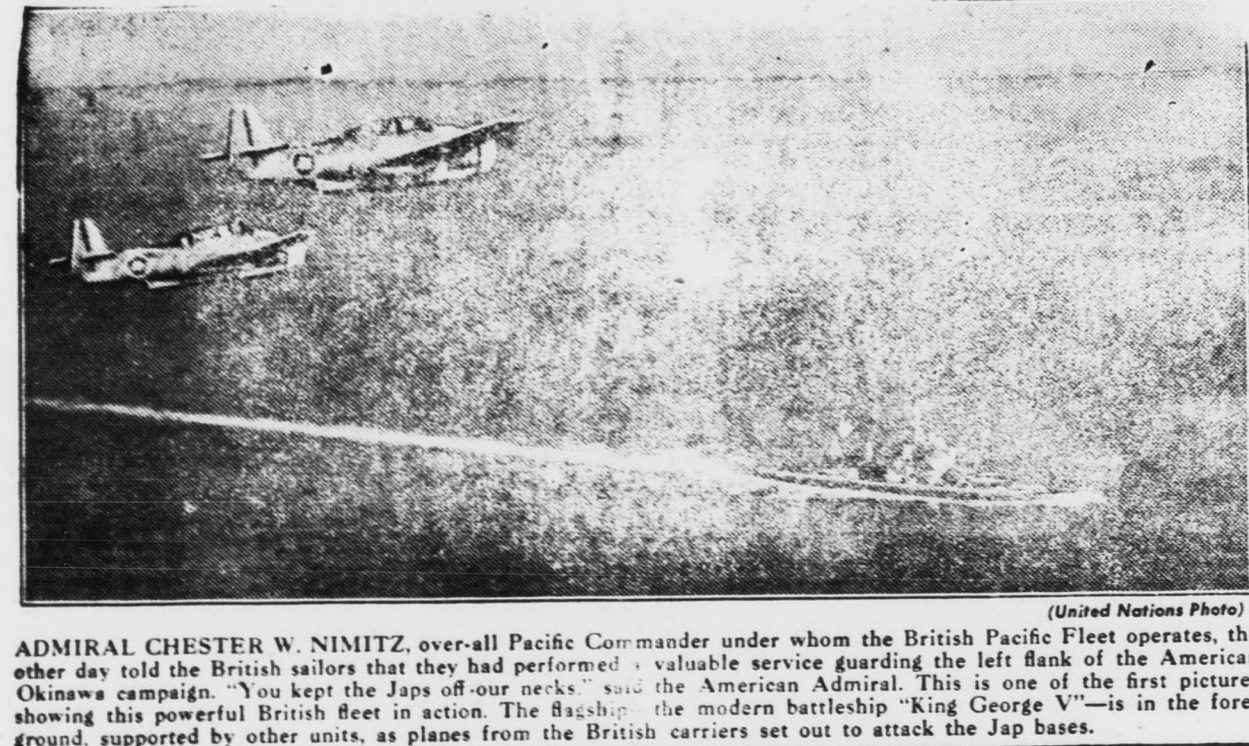
WASHINGTON—It now costs the quartermaster corps \$53.88 to equip and maintain a soldier in the United States during his first year in the army, the war department reported. This figure, which does not include cost of weapons, ammunition, transportation, shelter, pay and similar expenses, is nearly 15 per cent higher than the cost of \$46.06 in 1944.

Biggest item in cost is food, \$22.30. Clothing totals \$212; individual equipment \$63.93 and barrack equipment \$31.65.

Many Cripples Are Found Among Gestapo

SCHVENINGEN, HOLLAND.—A Canadian major said that 10 per cent of some 400 Gestapo members who have been processed here are crippled. The major, Robert Prince, is the executive officer of a brigade which is screening Gestapo men and turning them over to the Allied war crimes commission.

British Fleet in Pacific Attacks



ADMIRAL CHESTER W. NIMITZ, overall Pacific Commander under whom the British Pacific Fleet operates, the other day told the British sailors that they had performed a valuable service guarding the left flank of the American Okinawa campaign. "You kept the Japs off our necks," said the American Admiral. This is one of the first pictures showing this powerful British fleet in action. The ship, the modern battleship "King George V" is in the foreground, supported by other units, as planes from the British carriers set out to attack the Jap bases.

Vera

Vera, July 10. Miss Catherine Page, of Lynchburg spent the past week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Page.

Mrs. K. T. Marshall and daughter, Mrs. L. A. Coleman.

We are sorry to hear that little Carolyn Page, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Page, is in the hospital.

Robert Chermak spent Saturday night with Mr. Marie Ferguson.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Robertson, of Washington and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Hamilton, of Lynchburg, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. H. Robertson.

Miss Evelyn Chermak spent Sunday with Mrs. Annie Page.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Reynolds and children spent Sunday evening with Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Robertson.

Locust Grove

Locust Grove, July 10. Mrs. E. J. Harris, of Clifton Forge, is spending this week with Mrs. L. A. Beale.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Robertson and a friend, of Washington spent the week-end with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Robertson.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Hamilton, Miss Jean Adams, of Lynchburg, Mrs. Perry Thompson and son, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Reynolds and three children also visited in this same home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Paulett, Mrs. Mattie Jolley and John Henry Fulcher, of Prospect spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Willie Beale.

Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Beale and daughter, Yvonne spent Sunday in this same home.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Beale and children spent last week with their parents. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Beale and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Megginson.

Mrs. Etta Harris, Mrs. Lula Beale and Mrs. Nathalie Robertson spent Monday evening with Mrs. Jackie Chermak.

French occupy Saar Basin.

PETER B. PEEVE

DOUBTS ARE MORE CRUEL THAN THE WORST TRUTHS

(WNU Service)

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Spout Spring

Spout Spring, July 10. Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Dean, of Richmond, Va. spent several days this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Almond.

Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Webb and children, of Lynchburg spent Sunday with relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Webb, of Florida are visiting his mother, Mrs. B. C. Webb.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Cullip, of Florida are visiting his mother, Mrs. B. C. Webb.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Moon, of Clarksville, Va. will visit his parents this week, before he returns to duty with the Merchant Marine.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Cyrus entertained Monday night with a party in honor of their daughter, Macie Lee's 7th birthday.

Three British ships struck by Japanese.

Man rides steel barrel in Niagara Rapids.

Chap News

Chap, July 10. A fine rain fell here yesterday P. M. it was badly needed.

Pic. All rt. Baron, of Camp Pickett up to E. B. week-end here.

Edd Ferguson, of Victoria called here Thursday.

The Fourth passed off quietly in this section.

Mrs. Mack Powell is returning to Newark, N. J. this week, after spending a few weeks with Mrs. Annie Powell.

Mrs. S. B. Fore is better at this writing. Those to see her over the week-end and Sunday were Mrs. Ozy Padgett and children, of Lynchburg, Mr. and Mrs. Tilden.

Food fight in Berlin as three Allies take over.

Congressman Martin to seek bill limiting aid to Axis.

British ready to begin the war criminal trials.

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Rocks News

Rocks, July 2 (Omitted last week). Farmers have been harvesting wheat and are busy laying by their corn.

Mrs. E. S. Roach called to see Mrs. Baldwin last Monday morning.

Herbert Richardson, U. S. A. called in the home of J. H. Reason one afternoon last week.

Mrs. W. F. Ransom, Miss Gertrude Ransom and Mrs. Holmberg left for Norfolk last Sunday night.

Mrs. Randolph Marsh and daughter, Mrs. Victor Jones of New York spent a few days recently with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Marsh.

Jim Frank Ransom was helping brother, Charlie, work on hay rack last week.

G. Maxwell was in the neighborhood Wednesday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Anderson, of Washington, D. C. arrived Friday night to pay a short visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Ringe.

Mrs. D. R. Ringe received a note Friday night that her son, Richard, of the Army, who had been in the European countries for some time, had arrived at Fort Meade, Md.

To Fatten on Garbage

A thousand feeder hogs also have been assigned to F.A. These will be fattened on garbage collected from various army, navy and marine camps. Later they will be slaughtered and the fresh pork distributed to hospitals and military establishments. Some of the hogs will be sold to natives.

Six Brahman bulls and six heifers from Texas, two Holstein bulls and 43 broiler hens and sows have been assigned to the military government for breeding purposes. They will be used to bolster the depleted livestock of the island. Before the war there was approximately 8,500 head of cattle here. Today there are less than 4,000.

The 600 chickens, including 200 White Leghorns, 200 Bar Plymouth Rocks and 200 New Hampshire Reds, 100 Muscovy chickens and 50 turkeys will go to Military Government.

Poultry Weltered

The war brought a depletion of 98 per cent in poultry on the island, according to William V. Sausette, USNR, formerly of San Francisco and Singapore, officer in charge of the military government agricultural section.

"There were 130,000 fowl on the island before the war and today there are only a handful," he said. "With this new shipment we expect to increase greatly the poultry flock and eventually bring it to normal."

Most of the eggs will be used for hatching to increase the flock. Some will be sent to hospitals for wounded troops.

The cattle were unloaded from the ships to LSTs in crates lowered over the side. The LSTs then pulled to shore where the cattle were loaded on trucks through specially constructed loading chutes.

The shipment not only will be aid to the wounded but is expected to do much toward assisting the native economy.

Blueprints Go by V-Mail

To Speed Warship Repair

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A new technique—sending blueprints by V-mail—speeded up by weeks the return of the escort carrier Kalinin Bay to the fleet.

The vessel took 25 shell holes in her hull during the battle for Leyte Gulf and was brought back to Terminal Island, Calif., for repairs.

The bureau of ships had had under way for some time a program of photographic reproduction of all plans of combat ships. The Kalinin Bay plans were recorded on four reels of film and flown to the ship yard several weeks before the ship's arrival. Meanwhile photographs of battle damage had been flown in from the Pacific and advance fabrication of damaged portions of the ship was made possible.

Order Drastic Cut in Aviation Cadet Program

WASHINGTON.—The war department announced that the army aviation cadet program is being reduced drastically in view of the European war situation.

Affected are preaviation cadets and prear crew trainees assigned to the air corps for active service who are on inactive status as civilians until eligible for active duty following their 18th birthdays. The army said cadets and students already in flying training will be sufficient to meet future needs for pilots, bombardiers, and navigators.

Charging Jap Officer Sees Yanks; Changes Mind

OKINAWA.—This is one about a Jap officer who was charged with the killing of a U. S. soldier.

He appeared suddenly with drawn sword, "Banzai!" — he came charging down, flaying the air with his sword. Halfway down toward U. S. troops, the officer suddenly stopped and Japs following him. He quickly sheathed his sword and disappeared.

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Yanks Welcome Pamplin

Pamplin, July 9. Sgt. and Mrs. Willis Ligon, of North Carolina, are guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Pankey.

Sgt. Herbert Richardson, who recently visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Richardson, returned to Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. George Williamson, of Newport News were welcomed by the parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. Dickerson.

Miss Sue Davis, of Lynchburg, was a guest in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Ransome last week.

Mrs. Thomas Hartman, of Petersburg, is visiting her niece, Mrs. Wiley Richardson.

Miss M. L. Davis, of Richmond, spent last week-end at her home here. She was accompanied by Richard, son of her mother, Mrs. N. A. Davis.

R. V. A. J. Ponton spent last Monday night in the home of his daughter, Mrs. C. H. McCall.

Mrs. J. W. Hamilton and Mrs. W. Hamilton, Jr., of Lynchburg were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Gilliam.

Mrs. Bessie Wilkerson spent last week with her daughter, Mrs. C. H. Pittenger, of Lexington.

Mrs. Cole and daughter, Mrs. Minnie Cole are visiting the former brother in Southwest Virginia.

Roy Lucado and Thomas Jamerson, of the U. S. Army, are spending furlough here.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Ponton, Jr. and family were guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. McCall last week.

Miss Mary River Black, Miss Mildred Slom, Miss Anne Terry and J. M. Cobb, Jr. are all at the State B. T. U. convention at Massachusetts Springs.

R. D. Nash, of West Virginia, spent last week-end at his home here.

Miss Ella Lewis, of Appomattox

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Stonewall

Stonewall, July 10. Mrs. Florence Carson, of Steelton, Pa., is visiting in the home of Mrs. C. Straton.

The Stonewall home demonstration club meeting will be held on Monday, July 30, at 2 P. M. in the home of Mrs. Clayton Drinkard.

Mrs. and Mrs. Zane Grey Ross have returned home from their vacation and have a their guest.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lee Carter spent Sunday with Frances Jennings.

Mrs. Anna Lee, Mrs. Florence Carson and Mrs. Lee Wheeler spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Garretts, near Vera.

Travis Lee, of Richmond spent last week visiting in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. J. Rufus Burnette, and Mrs. Anna Lee and Tilton Lee.

Ben Wheeler spent the week-end with Joe Megginson at Vera.

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